

NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 63

4 April 1950

1. The following were present:

DOCUMENT NO. _____	Dr. Appleton	State
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Lydman	State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFIED	Mr. Fletcher	State
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C	Lt. Col. Kiel	Army
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____	Capt. Maher	Navy
AUTH: HR 78-2	Lt. Cdr. Nutt	Navy
DATE: 25 NOV 1980	Lt. Col. Wade	Air Force
VIEWER: 018645		CIA (Acting Chairman)
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2. The Acting Chairman stated that, since revisions of Standard Instructions are taking longer to finish than was expected and since the revisions will not be published until all are complete, CIA will undertake to reproduce limited numbers of finally approved elements for interim use by producers. The following requirements were announced for copies of elements already finally approved:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Ch. IV</u>	<u>Ch. V</u>	<u>Ch. VIII</u>	<u>Ch. IX</u>	<u>Editorial Instructions</u>
State	60	60	10	10	30
Army	10	10	25	10	25
Navy	10	10	To be reported	10	20
Air Force	10	10	" " "	10	15

The Acting Chairman also pointed out that, although requests have been received from the working level for copies of the revised Standard Instructions for Chapter II, CIA will not reproduce these instructions until expressions of final agency approval have been received. He requested, therefore, that such expressions be forthcoming with the minimum practicable delay.

3. A brief statement was made regarding the situation in D/NIS as regards the processing of NIS contributions. The Tables of Organization of D/NIS were drawn up on the theory that approximately seventy-five (75) sections per month would be processed, that this rate would be fairly well maintained, and that the quality of the material would be such as to require only normal editorial processing. In practice, however, the highest monthly average so far attained in processing contributions through D/NIS has been twenty-eight (28) per month. The reason for this slowdown is the extremely great consumption of D/NIS man-hours in doing the following:

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a. Detecting and correcting numerous substantive errors and inconsistencies.

b. Numerous personal conferences between editors and authors regarding these errors and inconsistencies and regarding writing style and content considered inappropriate for NIS. The latter category of time consumption has been emphasized with regard to sociological, political, and economic contributions now being received from State. The underlying reason for this is probably that it is more difficult to maintain objectivity and perspective in presentation of basic intelligence on these types of subjects than it is in presentation of basic intelligence on such a subject as military geography.

c. Numerous deficiencies in graphic material which require correction and, in some instances, redrafting of portions of the material.

CIA is not responsible for the production of most of the NIS but is responsible for the editing thereof and, hence, for doing everything in its power to see that published NIS are of the best practicable quality. However, if the receipt of contributions reaches a sustained rate of forty (40) per month, as implied by a yearly production rate of eight (8) NIS, CIA (D/NIS) will be completely bogged down unless one of two events occur:

a. The quality of contributions is stepped up sharply and maintained.

b. D/NIS, after examination and indication of typical deficiencies, returns large numbers of contributions to producing agencies for complete overhaul and revision.

Obviously, the second alternative is most undesirable from several points of view. Hence, it is imperative that producing agencies take immediate steps to attain the first alternative. It appears that the most clearly indicated of these steps would be a thorough overhauling of the system of agency substantive review.

4. The following changes, proposed by Army, in NIS Area groupings for Chapter II (Military Geography) were approved:

a. Czechoslovakia (NIS 18) to be treated individually because of the shape, position and complexity of the area.

b. Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Albania (NIS 19, 21, and 22) to be combined as a middle Danube area.

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c. Romania and Bulgaria (NIS 20 and 23) to be combined as a lower Danube area.

5. The question was raised whether or not the title of NIS 31 should be continued as "Palestine". The following facts bearing on the issue were pointed out:

a. Substitution of the title "Israel" would not be satisfactory because the presently designated NIS Area of Palestine comprises three political entities:

(1) The independent, diplomatically recognized state of Israel.

(2) A sub-area claimed by Jordan but not as yet officially recognized as belonging to Jordan.

(3) A sub-area claimed by Egypt but not as yet officially recognized as belonging to Egypt.

b. A number of NIS elements have already been published under the title of "Palestine". To divide the area into two or more NIS Areas at this time would therefore be awkward and confusing.

It was tentatively decided that the title "Palestine" would remain unchanged and that the presentation of the material in the various chapters would take into account the areal subdivisions. The State member undertook to ascertain whether there is any reason unknown to the NIS Committee why this decision should not be permanent.

6. The Acting Chairman undertook to ascertain whether the official name of the former Irish Free State is still "Eire" or has changed to "The Republic of Ireland".

7. Members were requested to examine the proposed outline guides for Subsection 62C (Petroleum) and Supplement V (Petroleum) as passed by the NIS Petroleum Subcommittee and be prepared to act upon the approval thereof at the next meeting. In this connection, it was pointed out that the MBPC has been accorded permission to undertake production of a Subsection 62C and Supplement V on Colombia but has been instructed not to undertake actual production thereof until it has received the appropriate outline guides as finally approved by the NIS Committee.

8. Copies of a proposal for an NIS Operating Memorandum regarding revisions of NIS were distributed to the members. This proposal will be discussed at the next meeting.

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9. Proposed revisions of the FY 1950 NIS Production Schedule for Chapters III (Transportation and Telecommunications), IV (Sociological), V (Political), VI (Economic), Supplement I (Ports and Naval Facilities), and Supplement III (Telecommunications), were received. A proposed revision of the schedule for Chapter II (Military Geography) is to be forwarded to D/NIS by the chapter coordinator (Army) shortly. Revised schedules for Chapters VIII (Armed Forces) and IX (Map and Chart Appraisal) have already been approved. Chapter I (Brief) will not be scheduled. D/NIS will attempt to get from OSI a revised schedule for FY 1950 for Chapter VII (Scientific) and will present to the committee at the next meeting a draft of an over-all revised production schedule for FY 1950.

10. The next meeting was scheduled for 1000 hours, Tuesday, 11 April 1950, at CIA.

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Distribution:
NIS Committee (4)
Mr. Earman (JIC)

AD/ORE
Chief, D/PA
IC, D/NIS
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